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COMIREX-M-88

5 February 1970

*Approved per 10
w/ changes*

*Approved with
modifications 19 Feb 70
per COMIREX-M-88*

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COMMITTEE ON IMAGERY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPLOITATION

COMIREX-M-88
5 February 1970

NRO & DIA REVIEWS COMPLETED

Following is an index of the Minutes of the 5 February 1970
COMIREX meeting:

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[Redacted]

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GROUP I EXCLUDED FROM
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Section I (Briefings)

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Ultra-thin Base Film (UTB)

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1. The NRO Consultant noted that Ultra-thin Base (SO-380) film had last been flown on Mission 1105 in November 1968. Intermittent focus and image smear problems encountered during that mission raised problems as to effective use of UTB film on future missions. Today's briefing by [redacted] will review the steps taken by NRO since then leading to the presently scheduled use of SO-380 for upcoming Mission 1109.

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2. [redacted] displayed examples of photography from 1105 to demonstrate the nature of the problems present in that mission. He explained that the image quality variation experienced during 1105 had been of serious concern to the operators since they did not understand precisely why it occurred and feared a basic defect in SO-380 that might cause a major failure on a future mission. After a thorough technical review, however, the NRO discovered the main problem on 1105 had been the variations in the film's "lift" as it passed over the lens opening. It was determined that film flatness or lift bears a direct relation to the temperature, which the operators can control by proper selection of orbit and altitude for the vehicle. He reported on the very extensive testing on film movement which had been done for Mission 1109.

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3. In closing, [redacted] recalled that one problem with the SO-380 was smear. Eastman Kodak has just come out with a new SO-349 film providing the same resolution but with a two-thirds ^{increase} decrease in speed which should result in less smear. He hoped to have an early test of this new film.

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4. The Chairman thanked [redacted] and referred to the Committee's high interest in UTB at this time because of the very austere KH-4 launch schedule for the coming months. The NRO had recently indicated that, [redacted] [redacted] the present KH-4 schedule can be expected to provide a level of only about 70 percent area search coverage which is significantly below the level specified in current standing requirements.

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[redacted] commented that, since UTB offers the capability of providing increased area coverage for a given mission while at the same time maintaining a high quality of imagery, COMIREX is encouraged to see SO-380 planned for Mission 1109. /Subsequently, problems with the functioning of UTB film were encountered during the pre-launch check-out of Mission 1109, making it advisable to cancel the operational use of SO-380 at this time. The mission, which will now carry STB film, has been postponed for some weeks./

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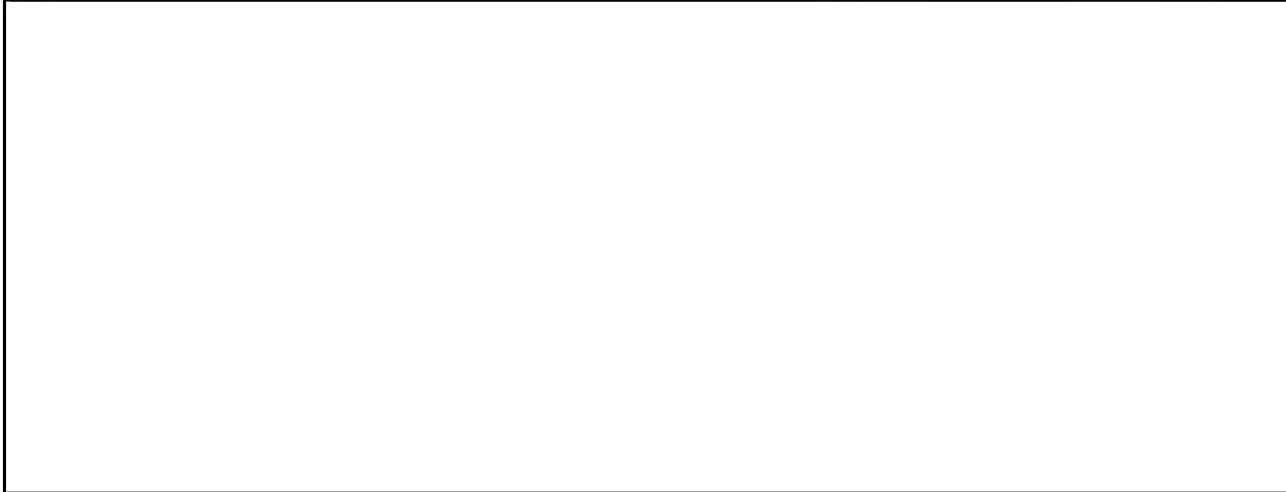
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5 February 1970

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Section II (Approval of Minutes)

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COMIREX -M -87

1. COMIREX -M -87, covering the meeting of 22 January 1970, were approved.

COMIREX -M -87A

2. Members were asked to notify the Executive Secretary if there were any changes to the Minutes for the special meeting held 29 January 1970. /There having been no request for change subsequent to the meeting, COMIREX -M -87A will be noted as approved../

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Section III (Operations)

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Satellite Schedule

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1. [redacted]
that Mission 1109 scheduled for launch on 18 February will carry UTB film. (See Section I, page 5, for a briefing and discussion.)

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2. [redacted] commented that in the paper sent to USIB last week (USIB-D-46.4/34, COMIREX-D-13.16/7, 2 February 1970) the point was made that explicit mission-to-mission collection guidance for CORONA, in view of the austere launch schedule, would continue to be restricted to the very highest priority current intelligence needs and that all efforts would be made to hold these targets to a bare minimum. The Chairman instructed ICRS to emphasize this criterion in reviewing priorities for Mission 1109. [redacted] said that ICRS will meet on Tuesday, 10 February, to develop the 1109 priorities and an advance copy of these will be provided to NRO for planning purposes immediately following that meeting. The priorities recommended by ICRS will be circulated to COMIREX for formal approval the following day.

Report on Aircraft and Drone Activities

3. The reports presented by the DIA Member, the CIA Member, and the Chairman, ICRS, on aircraft and drone activities, coverage of special targets in the Far East, and satisfaction of the Cuba 56-day requirement are recorded in Tab D.

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Cuba Coverage Requirements



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3. The DIA Member reported no OLD HEAD missions flown during the past two weeks. This was because the Iris II camera was doing so well in acquiring area coverage. [redacted] then referred to discussions over the past months concerning COMIREX review and revision of the standing USIB Cuba coverage requirements. He noted that the memorandum from the Chairman, National Intelligence Resources Board, to the Deputy Secretary of Defense requesting guidance as to whether or not a reduction of the level of readiness of U.S. combat forces in support of Cuban contingency planning is contemplated (see COMIREX-M-83, Section IV, paragraph 11) has been sent.

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NRO Request for New Monthly Report



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4. The Chairman referred to a memorandum he had received from the NRO asking that COMIREX provide them with information on requirements for coverage of targets in areas where the use of manned aircraft or drones might supplement photographic collection by satellites. This information was needed for the report the NRO must make to the Deputy Secretary of Defense by the 15th of each month for his use in preparing his recommendations to the 303 Committee. [redacted] has discussed the request with the Chairman, ICRS, and there are some aspects which require clarification. If, after the exact nature of the information desired is identified, we find that the preparation of a special or unique report is required, the

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request will be referred to the Committee for consideration and comment. [redacted] considered it likely, however, that the needed information is available in reports already being prepared. Pending further study of the request, [redacted] has asked [redacted] to work with the NRO staff to provide whatever information they need for their report due 15 February.

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5. In further discussion, [redacted] said, if the request should turn out to be for a current intelligence target forecast related to a specific collection capability (e.g., [redacted] CORONA, manned aircraft, or drone) as much as 45 days in advance, this may not prove feasible. [redacted] said that the request was meant to establish a list of target requirements for those denied areas, particularly South China at this time, where there could possibly be aircraft and/or drone activity concurrent or nearly concurrent with satellite coverage. The information is needed to limit redundant coverage which might be acquired by satellite, drone, and aircraft activity.

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6. [redacted] went on to say that the various regional requirements (North Korea, Communist China, Southeast Asia, Cuba, etc.) are in most cases very old and generally have been modified piecemeal by supplemental current guidance related almost exclusively to satellite coverage. These requirements are in need of updating and, in most cases, review has been under way and we are proceeding toward the needed revision and updating. He pointed out, however, that pending formal USIB acceptance of revised requirements, effective collection guidance has been and will continue to be regularly provided to the NRO on a current-mission basis.

Modified CORONA Requirement

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7. The Chairman alerted members that a draft of the proposed modified CORONA area search requirement would be distributed soon.

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Status Report on Procedures for Rapid Reporting of Warning/
Indications Information

25X1A 8. [redacted] reported that representatives of NPIC and the National Indications Center (NIC) have completed a draft on procedures for the rapid reporting of warning/indications information which should be in the hands of EXSUBCOM within the next week or so. (See COMIREX-M-83, Section IV, paragraph 12.)

COMIREX Resource Information Report (COMIREX-D-32.5/3)

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25X1A 9. [redacted] reported that the comments he had received relative to the usefulness and format of the Quarterly COMIREX Resource Information Report indicated that it is desirable to continue to collect the resource information, although some changes in data input and presentation should be considered. However, [redacted] recommended and the Chairman agreed that any changes considered in the man-hour report format be deferred until the report for the first quarter of FY 1971 in order to maintain continuity of the FY 1969/1970 man-hour statistics.

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10. The Chairman felt that DIA's decision to provide data on man-hours expended by OPIC-A is an important step forward. [redacted] commented that one of the key points in the potential utility of this information is to give a perspective of over-all activity. He felt that consideration should be given to providing a general exploitation resources application figure for each component; NPIC is the only one for which such data is presently available. The Chairman requested that, over the next reporting period, each member explore the feasibility of having this information provided by his Agency and report on this point to the Office of the Chairman. The information would not have to be in great detail but simply a gross figure which would show the relationship between resources devoted to basic exploitation and those devoted to direct support exploitation.

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11. The recommendations set forth by [redacted] in COMIREX-D-32.5/3 were approved. [redacted] noted that he has the second-quarter information from the services but still needs it from CIA, DIA, and NPIC. The Chairman asked that this information be provided to [redacted] as soon as possible.

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CORONA [redacted] Search Area Coverage Accounting
(COMIREX-D-13.3/1) [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]

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12. The Chairman noted that, as reported in COMIREX-D-13.3/1, he had requested the Director of Basic and Geographic Intelligence (OBGI/CIA) to provide certain maps in support of our efforts to more precisely define the [redacted] CORONA search target areas for both collection and coverage-accounting purposes. The Director, OBGI, has agreed to proceed with preparation of the requested map series.

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13. The Chairman referred to two sample maps of South China that were distributed by [redacted]. Members of the COMIREX staff have been experimenting with ways in which information and data on target coverage and area coverage can be produced and maintained. [redacted] explained that a base map of South China has been prepared for use in target and area coverage accounting for that area. The map is formatted so that information can be transferred to it by computer printing process, thus making it possible, using the current COMIREX target deck, to depict graphically targets of varying priority, targets covered or not covered in a given time period, status of area coverage, and the like. [redacted] asked that the samples be treated as working papers and anyone who had specific comments was encouraged to make them known to the staff. No formal action is requested at this stage. [redacted] noted that one reason for starting with South China was to depict the current status of rail lines so that areas related to rail line search can be brought up to date.

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[redacted] indicated that he intends to proceed along the lines described, using South China as a pilot, in an effort to establish means for reporting the status of coverage on a more accurate and comprehensive basis than heretofore and in an easy-to-handle fashion. He emphasized that more such working maps will be prepared and made available. A good deal of coordination, however, will be necessary before any decision is made to formalize a new type of reporting program.

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[redacted]

Request for Nominations for Offutt Course

15. The Chairman reminded members that the next session of the special one-week Advanced Imagery Interpretation Orientation Course for COMIREX is scheduled for the week of 2 March and asked members to provide his office with their nominations for attendance early next week.

Section V (Other Business)

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Section VI (Subcommittee and Working Group Reports)

Imagery Collection Requirements Subcommittee

1. The Chairman, ICRS, reported that his subcommittee is working on a review of the USIB standing North Vietnam requirement as a priority action item and hopes to have a recommendation to COMIREX in the near future.

Imagery Exploitation Subcommittee

2. The Chairman, EXSUBCOM, noted that although the basic program contains requirements for updating detailed reports at a set frequency there has not been a uniform understanding as to how this was to be done. EXSUBCOM has now worked out coordinated guidelines for this updating. These will be distributed to COMIREX for review and approval shortly.

Data Base Working Group

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3. [redacted] reported that there has been a directive issued within the Department of Defense which provides for revision of the country code categories in the major ADP files of that department in compliance with the recently issued national standard codes. The target date for implementation is 8 April 1970. [redacted] has tasked the National Imagery Data Base file coordinators to assess the impact of this change on COMIREX automated data files and to report to him by 16 February their plans for complying with the national standard.

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4. The Chairman, DBWG, said that he had no progress to report on the Object Data File. [redacted] commented that this was an area in which he hopes to see some movement evident soon.

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Executive Secretary
Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

Attachments
Tabs A - E

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| [redacted] | [redacted] |
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Tab D

Report on Aircraft and Drone Activities

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BUMPY ACTION (23 January - 5 February 1970)

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>MSN NO.</u> | <u>AREAS/TARGETS</u> | <u>RESULTS</u> |
|-------------|----------------|---|----------------|
| 24 Jan | Q548A/463(low) | SAM 263, Bac Mai Afld, Hanoi Port Fac, Yen Vien RR Yd | MARS |
| 24 Jan | Q604/464(low) | Ken An Afld, Cat Bi Afld, Hen Gai NVB/Shpyd, Hon Gai Port, Cam Pha Port | MARS |
| 27 Jan | Q605/468(low) | Yen Lac Cav Stor, My Hau Mil Instl | MARS |
| 27 Jan | Q606/469(low) | SAM Sites, Vinh Afld | MARS |
| 28 Jan | Q607/470(low) | Segs Hwy 7, Quang Lang Afld, Vinh Son Complex | MARS |
| 29 Jan | Q596/471(low) | Kien An Afld, Haiphong Nav Base, Haiphong Port, Hon Gai NVB, Hon Gai Port, Cam Pha Port | MARS |
| 29 Jan | Q594/472(low) | Bai Thuong Afld, Thanh Hoa Army Bks So | MARS |
| 30 Jan | Q913/473(high) | Port Wallut, Tien Yen, Lang Son, Cao Bang, Bac Lan, Tuyen Quang, Yen Bai, Na San | MARS |
| 2 Feb | Q588/477(low) | Thanh Hoa Army Bks, Bai Thuong Afld, Hai Yen Cstl TSP, Vinh Cave Stor, Phu Qui | MARS |
| 2 Feb | Q501/478(low) | Hwy 1A & RR, Vinh Afld, Dong Hoa | MARS |

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BUMPY ACTION cont.

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Msn No</u> | <u>Areas/Targets</u> | <u>Results</u> |
|-------------|----------------|---|----------------|
| 3 Feb | Q511A/479(low) | Kien An Afld, Cat Bi Afld | MARS |
| 4 Feb | Q545A/481(low) | Cam Pha Port, Yen Vien RR Yd, Gia Lam Afld, Hanoi Port Fac | MARS |
| 4 Feb | Q575/482(low) | Hoa Loc Afld, Phuc Yen Afld, Kep Afld | MARS |
| 5 Feb | Q609/483(low) | Haiphong Port Fac, Haiphong SAM Site | MARS |
| | | Successful 14 | |
| | | Lost 0 | |

GIANT SCALE (23 January - 5 February 1970)

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>MSN NO.</u> | <u>AREAS/TARGETS</u> | <u>RESULTS</u> |
|-------------|----------------|--|----------------|
| 29 Jan | GS 221 | Dong Hoi, Quang Khe, Vinh, My Hau, Hai Yen, Hwys 1A, 7, 15, RR 6, 7 | FAIR |
| 3 Feb | GS 224 | Dong Hai, Quang Khe, Ben Thuy, Vinh, Hai Yen, My Hau, Hwys 1A, 7, 15, 8, Area Search | UNKNOWN |

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FOOD FAIR (23 January - 5 February 1970)

No FOOD FAIR activity was scheduled during this period.

IDEALIST/TACKLE (23 January - 5 February 1970)

There was not any IDEALIST/TACKLE activity reported during this period.

Coverage of Special Targets in South China and North Vietnam
(23 January - 4 February 1970)

Coverage of special targets in South China and North Vietnam was reported as follows:

a. No surveillance coverage was reported on Lines of Communication (LOC) targets pertinent to the introduction of Chinese forces into North Vietnam (see COMOR-D-25/207, 4 March 1966) during the period 22 January - 4 February 1970. The number of such targets remains at 331.

b. Coverage of North Vietnam to detect the possible introduction or deployment of offensive missile systems (see COMOR-D-25/200, 23 May 1967, and COMIREX-D-25.3/2, 20 November 1967) is shown on the attached grid maps (pages D-5 and D-6) for the following time periods.

| <u>Period</u> | <u>Missions Not Reported</u> |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 15-21 January 1970 | 2 BUMPY ACTION |
| 22-28 January 1970 | 2 BUMPY ACTION |

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CUBA

OLD HEAD (23 January - 5 February 1970)

No OLD HEAD missions were flown during this period. The cumulative coverage for the current 56-day period remains at 94.1 percent. (See Section IV, paragraph 3, for discussion of Cuba coverage.)

Status of 56-Day Coverage

The status of coverage for the 56-day periods shown below is as follows:

| <u>PERIOD</u> | <u>AREA COVERAGE</u> | <u>TARGET COVERAGE</u> | <u>NUMBER OF MISSIONS</u> | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| | | | <u>Flown</u> | <u>Exploited</u> | <u>Area</u> |
| 4 Dec 69 - 28 Jan 70 | 98.2% | 169 of 177 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| 11 Dec 69 - 4 Feb 70 | 98.2% | 169 of 177 | 6 | 6 | 6 |

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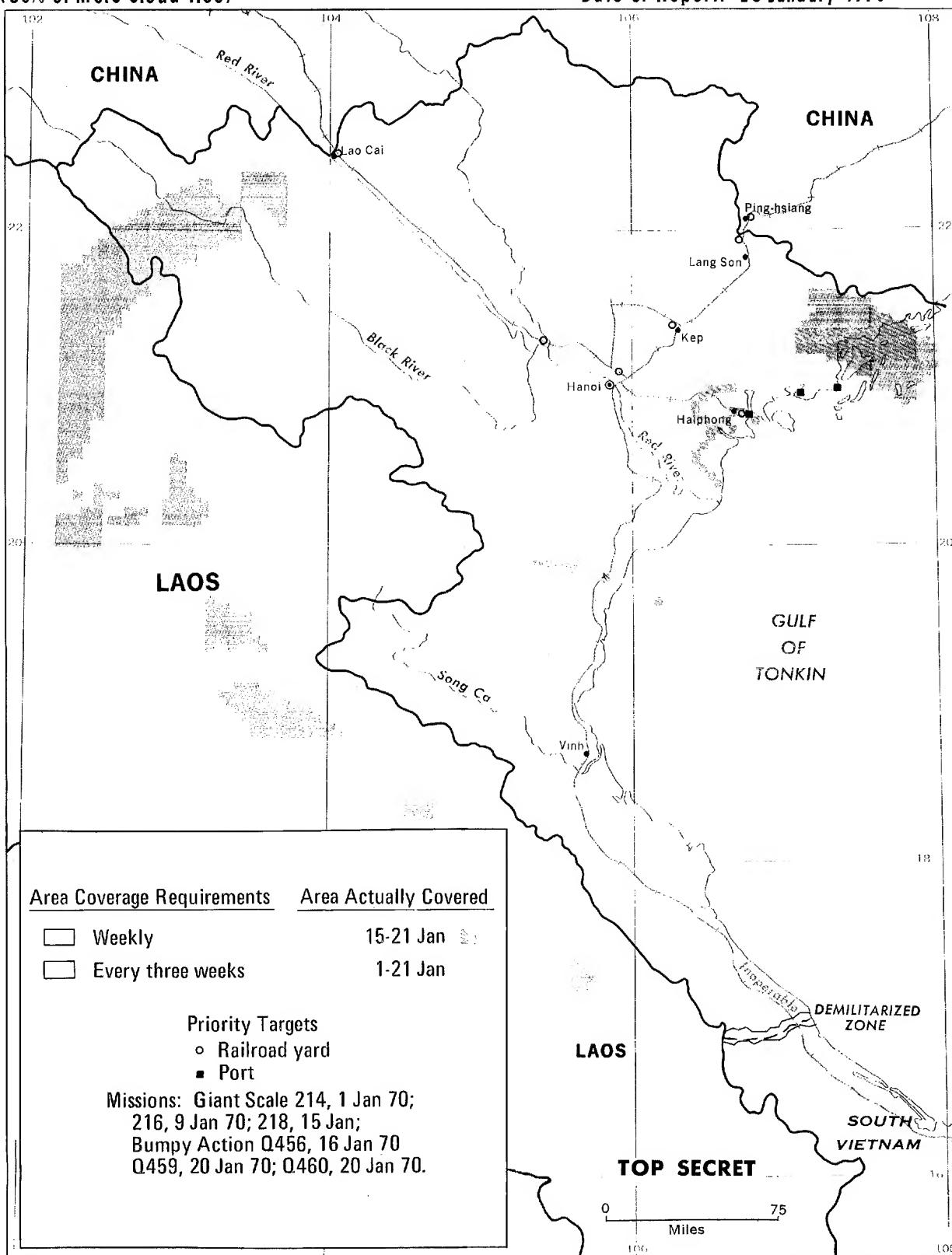
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High Resolution Coverage of North Vietnam

(80% or more cloud-free)

Date of Report: 28 January 1970



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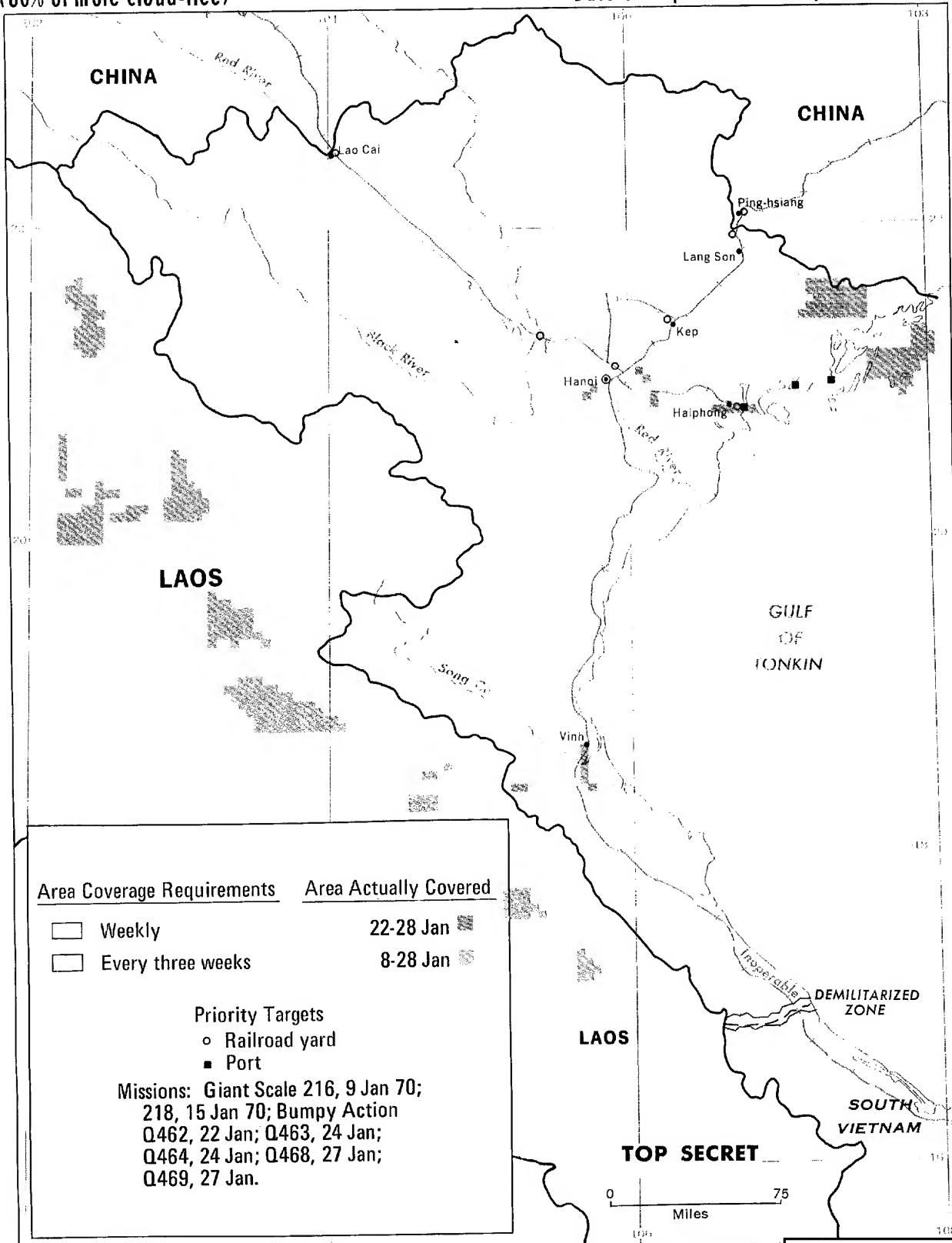
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High Resolution Coverage of North Vietnam

(80% or more cloud-free)

Date of Report: 4 February 1970



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